

thereof, they haue rather omitted and neglected many good occasions to them offered, which they might well haue imbraced for their owne auaille. But (if to the contrary) we must be forced to doe that which we are loath to doe, and which the fruits and effects of warre afford, (although wholly against our wils) for the defence of our most gracious King and Country, our wiues, children, lands, goods, freedoms, and priuiledges; we will not spare to do our vttermost therein, referring the issue thereof vnto Almighty God.

Therefore once againe we request and desire our friends and allies, with whom we haue been so long time in good correspondence, friendship, and amity; to be pleased for the loue, zeale, and preservation of the true Religion, the withstanding of the intollerable Spanish yoake, and the diuerting of the same from our posterity, with many other calamities that may ensue; earnestly and heartily to be the meanes to withdraw his electorall Highnesse from all hostile proceedings: and herewith commit them to the protection of the Almighty God. Dated in Prague the 4. of September, 1620.

*Subscribed, The Counsellors and Officers to
the Kings Maiestie and Crowne
of BOHEMIA.*

FINIS.

thereof, they haue rather omitted and neglected many good occasions to them offered, which they might well haue imbraced for their owne auaille. But (if to the contrary) we must be forced to doe that which we are loath to doe, and which the fruits and effects of warre afford, (although wholly against our wils) for the defence of our most gracious King and Country, our wiues, children, lands, goods, freedoms, and priuiledges; we will not spare to do our vttermost therein, referring the issue thereof vnto Almighty God.

Therefore once againe we request and desire our friends and allies, with whom we haue been so long time in good correspondence, friendship, and amity; to be pleased for the loue, zeale, and preservation of the true Religion, the withstanding of the intollerable Spanish yoake, and the diuerting of the same from our posterity, with many other calamities that may ensue; earnestly and heartily to be the meanes to withdraw his electorall Highnesse from all hostile proceedings: and herewith commit them to the protection of the Almighty God. Dated in Prague the 4. of September, 1620.

*Subscribed, The Counsellors and Officers to
the Kings Maiestie and Crowne
of BOHEMIA.*

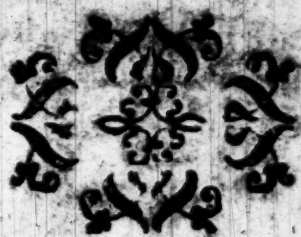
FINIS.

1554 a. 5
AN
ANSWER

TO THE
QUESTION:

Whether the Emperour that now is,
can bee Iudge in the BOHEMIAN
Controuersie or no?

Together with the Extract taken out of
the Acts of the Dyet at Auspurghe, in
the yeare 1584: Concerning the
Kingdome of Bohemia.

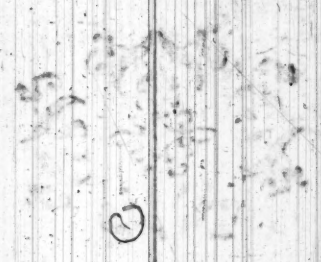


M. D. C. XX.

AN ACT
TO THE
ESTABLISHMENT
OF A

Whether the Emperor
can be judged to be a
Christian or not

To be read in the
the Acts of the
the year 1714
Kingdom of Great Britain



AND BY VIRTUE OF THE

An Answer to the Question, whether
the Emperour that now is, can be Iudge
in the Bohemian Controuersie or no? To-
gether with the Extract taken out of the
Acts of the Dyct at Augspurghe, in the
yeare 1548: concerning the Kingdome
of Bohemia.

THey that endeavour to attribute
vnto the Imperiall Maiestie that
now is, the office of a Iudge in
the Bohemian Controuersie,
ground their opinion vpon this,
that namely, the Crowne of Bo-
hemia is an Electorate & a Fee depending on the
Empire; from whence they inferre, that as it is
onely and alone due vnto a Roman Emperour to
conferre Electorates and Fees depending on the
Empire, so likewise it is due onely and alone to
the Emperour to iudge and to giue sentence in
and of the same; and, that in case of not obeying
or gain-saying, he may make vse of his Imperiall
authoritie.

But whilst the King of Bohemia that now is,
being besides Count Palatine and Elector, hath
accepted of that now mentioned Crowne, Ele-
ctorate and Fee imperiall; and that at that time
when his Imperiall Maiestie was exalted vnto
the Imperiall dignitie, was of the said King
himselſe acknowledged to be his Emperour, and
liege

liege Lord; and knew verie well that his imperi-
all Maiestie laid claime to the said Crowne, Ele-
ctorate and imperiall Fee: hauing besides that
neglected the respect he oweth to his Imperiall
Maiestie, as well in not abandoning that once
accepted Crown according vnto the monitoriall
Mandate sent forth in that behalfe; as also in not
obeying (as hee ought) his lawfully ordayned
Emperour, and liege Lord.

And therefore his Imperiall Maiestie, beeing
lawfully elected Emperour of the Romans, and
Lord of the said Fee, and so supreme Iudge, can
and may vse against the said King all sharpe,
constraint, and executionall processe.

But euerie one (the eyes of whose vnderstan-
ding are not altogether blinded with overwhel-
ming affects) can easily perceiue the insufficiency
of those confused arguments, if he vouchsafe but
as it were by the way to consider and looke vp-
pon both parties, and vpon the cause it selfe.

For it is more then world-notorious, and more
then manifest out of all Writings, edictall cassati-
on, and Mandate set forth and published by his
Imperiall Maiestie, that his Maiestie neither pre-
tendeth nor groundeth his complaint vpon any
wrong done to the holy Roman Empire, by ac-
cepting of the said Crowne of Bohemia: But al-
together and alone vpon this, that namely the
mentioned Crowne of Bohemia appertayneth
onely and alone vnto the House of Austria, as
being an onely Inheritance of the same; and that
there-

therefore it is due vnto his Imperiall Maiestie,
as being borne an Archduke of Austria.

But if his Imperiall Maiestie may lawfully
ground his claime of his pretended inheritance
to the Crowne of Bohemia vpon vertue of his
obtained election to the Imperiall Dignitie, why
then should not the succeeding and from other
Families descending and issuing Emperors, haue
the like pretence and claime of Inheritance to
the same Crowne? the which the House of Au-
stria I am sure would neuer allow of.

It must therefore needes follow, first that the
King of Bohemia that now is, hath nothing at all
to cōtest with the holy Empire, nor with his im-
periall Maiestie as with an elected Emperour of
the Romans, touching the accepting of the
Crowne of Bohemia now complained of, but
as with a borne Archduke; and then, that his
Imperiall Maiestie in this priuate cause and Au-
striacall pretence, nor ought nor can be both
partie and Iudge, especially whilst the Kingdome
of Bohemia alloweth no iurisdiction at all to the
Roman Emperour (saue onely in that which is
due vnto the Empire, as from a Fee depending
on the same.) And is not subiect neyther to the
Roman Emperour, nor to the iudgements of the
holy Empire, whether they be pronounced at the
Imperial Court, or at the Chamber at Spire; nor
to the Constitutions of the Empire, nor to the
decisions of the deuisions of the Empire, nor to
common acts of the same.

And

And whereas his Imperiall Maiestie in this case against the person of the Count Palatine Elector, now King of Bohemia, will be considered and produced not as a partie, but as a Roman Emperour, liege Lord and Iudge, it is more then absurd; forasmuch as his Imperiall Maiestie it selfe in this Bohemian Controuersie, hath neuer but intituled himselfe King of Bohemia, and Tenant to the Empire, in that he still hath endeououred to confirme his pretence principally with this, that namely his Maiestie hath beene inuested into the said and often mentioned Crowne of Bohemia, by a Roman Emperour.

Wherefore then the Count Palatine Elector, and now King of Bohemia, can be in no manner accused as if he had committed any thing against the holy Roman Empire, and the Roman Emperour his liege Lord, and so lost that Fee of the Empire he hath accepted of.

And if his Imperiall Maiestie would needes herein supply the office of a Iudge as Roman Emperour and liege Lord, then must he necessarily take vpon him two seuerall and distinct persons, and set the one vpon the imperiall Tribunall, and make the other as Archduke of Austria, together with the Count Palatine Elector, to appeare before him, and then iudge which of those two hath the better Law, whether the Archduke which by clancularie Conuentions hath sought to change and conuey the Crowne of Bohemia (a Fee of the holy Roman Empire) to the great disadvantage
and

and hurt of the same Empire, to the House of Spaine, which long since hath affected an vniuersall Monarchy: or the Count Palatine, which still hath, and as yet laboureth daily to obtaine the said Crowne and Imperiall Fee from the Empire.

And yet more absurde is this, that they goe about to perswade the World as if the Count Palatine Elector had done too much, and had committed against the Law in accepting of that him offered Bohemian election and Crowne, and that at that time, when his Imperiall Maiestie was alreadie exalted to the Imperiall dignitie: when his Imperiall Maiestie was acknowledged by the said Count Palatine Elector himselfe, to bee his Emperour, and liege Lord: and when hee knew full well that his Imperiall Maiestie laid claime to the same Crowne. For should the consideration and respect of Imperiall dignitie be holden sufficient enough for to barre him from accepting of that, vnto the accepting whereof (as constantly he beleeueth) he was warranted by God, and by the Law?

And what will the effect of this obiection bee else, but to conclude that the pretence of the demandant must needs bee the stronger in Law, because he is now preferred to higher dignitie then he was before? There is no Prince of the Empire, which pretendeth not some one action or another against his equall in priuate affaires: But if his equall should attaine to the Imperiall

dignity, would that same his preferment be cause enough for to cut off the lawfull action of the other Prince? Or should a Canon be barred from prosecuting his action he hath entred against his fellow Canon, concerning some priuate demands, because his fellow Canon and aduersary is chosen to weare the Myter? Should a Citizen lose his Law and pretence, because his fellow Citizen and aduersarie hath got the Majorship? Should a Souldier giue ouer his suite, because his fellow Souldier hath got the Captainship, and so a commaund ouer him that sued? If wee should graunt this, then must we likewise and most necessarily graunt, that the Dignities of what degree soeuer, haue beene brought in rather for suppression then for promotion of iustice: notwithstanding the scope and principall cause of the establishing and ordaining of heads, and gouernors in all estates and degrees of the World, is, that thereby good gouernment may be maintained, Law and Iustice may be administered to euery one which seeketh for it, and to whom it is due; and that none may be molested by another vnlawfully and wrongfully.

And although in all estates and degrees, euery one is bound by Law and Iustice to render due honour and respect to his lawfull Superiors, yet ought that same honour and respect to be in no wise derogatorie to the right of him that is bound to honour his Superior, but rather a motive and way to attaine to the same.

But

But more then absurd it is that they dare persuade his Imperiall Maiestie to make vse of his obtayned Imperiall power for to maintaine and colour his priuate Austriacall pretence, and to goe through-stitch with force, as being Roman Emperour: witnesse all those Writings and Patents which here and there haue beene published and put forth vnder the name of his Imperiall Maiestie, concerning as well the forcible Spanish Armie raysed in the Prouinces of Lower Burgundie, as also those which are and haue been entertayned of the vnited Electors, Princes, and Estates of the Roman Catholique Religion. For in the said Writings there be containd these two reasons, That (namely) these Armies haue beene leuyed; first for the maintenance of his Imperiall authoritie; secondly, for the recuperation of the same, as which hath beene taken away from him and from his House of Austria, in and together with Bohemia.

Out of the which reasons euery one may easily perceiue, to what end the pretended first reason, which is the Imperiall authoritie, serueth; namely, that vnder the Cloke of the former, the second reason, which is the claime of Austriacall interest, might be the better put forward: which is indeed a most monstrous and great abuse of Imperiall authoritie; forasmuch as it is most manifestly proued and euident, not onely out of the Constitutions of the Empire, and all Imperiall Capitulations, but also out of Nature, that

the Imperiall authoritie is giuen to all and euerie Emperour, to this end onely, that right and iustice (the onely true foundations and Pillars of euery Realme, and without which no Realme can nor may subsist) may be administred without partiallitie, no Prince and Estate of the Empire molested. But euerie one, as members of one body, against all vnlawfull power defended, and so the whole Bodie in good vnitie, peace, and estate preserued: which end to obtaine, it would be impossible, if euerie Prince, after he is exalted to the Empire, should be allowed to confound the priuate actions of his owne or of his Family, against his or their equalls with those of the holy Empire; and to driue through by war, proscription, or other such like sharpe meanes (though they were made without all lawfull precedent cognition, and rested onely vpon his owne will and pleasure) that, which in *propria causa*, he neuer was able to performe and obtaine by himselfe, and that vnder colour of Imperiall Soueraigntie and authority: which indeed is nothing else but to set into disquietnesse and combustion and extreame danger, the holy Empire; notwithstanding the Imperiall Maiestie that now is, hath highly obliged himselfe to the encreasing of the peaceable welfare of the same.

But for to preuent and to auert all mischief and incōuenience which might arriue out of the abuse of the Imperiall authoritie, it hath beene most wholesomely provided by all the holy Roman
man

man Empire, that euery new elected Roman Emperour shall at his Imperiall election instantly be vrged by the electorall Colledge, to confirm and ratifie with a corporall oath this of so many strong clauses consisting imperiall capitulation: That namely, neither he himselfe wil by violence and power, hurt or suppress any of the Electors, Princes, Prelates, Counts, Lords, and other Estates of the Empire; neyther cause nor giue way to others for to doe the same: But if eyther he or any other hath to demaund any thing, be it of them all in generall, or of some of them in particular, that then (for to auoid tumults, dissensions, and other hurtfull inconueniences in the Empire, and to preferue peace and vnitie,) he shall open lawfull audience and processe; and suffer in no wise, neyther in these nor in other matters, where they may haue ordinarie Lawes, and are willing to submit themselves thereunto, to hurt or to inuade by robberies, spoyling, burning, defiance, warre, or any other way, vnder what colour, or pretence or name whatsoever: that he will and shall preuent and suffer that henceforth in no wise no bodie, be he of high or low degree, eyther Elector, or Prince, or any other, without cause and vnheard to be proclaymed or declared guiltie of iterate proscription and banishment. But that herein all lawfull proceedings and ordinances enacted by the holy Empire, shall, according vnto the direction of the reformed order of the Imperiall Chamber at

Spire, be fully and strictly obserued and accomplished: And finally, that he contrary vnto the golden Bull, and other Ordinances of the holy Empire, shall in no manner of way send forth, nor vse, neyther of himselfe, nor by way of Entreaty from other Magistrates whatsoeuer, any Rescript, Mandate, or whatsoeuer may hurt; with this expresse addition, that, if any thing repugnant to the aforesaid poynts be eyther obtayned or sent forth, then all the same shall be voyd and of none effect.

Whilest the now-Imperiall Maiestie that now is, hath ratified and confirmed euery word of this Capitulation by a corporall Oath, it must needes be more cleare then the Sunne it selfe, that he neither ought nor can be both Party and Iudge in his owne proper cause against any Elector or Estate of the Empire, much lesse make vse of his Imperiall authoritie.

But forasmuch as it might easily happen that at one time or the other, eyther the Roman Emperour should haue occasion vpon some controuerisie to enter action against one or the other Elector and Estate of the Empire, or some one Elector or Estate of the Empire, or the other against the Roman Emperour, touching some priuate causes and pretensions; and that therefore necessitie would haue and require an vnpartiall Iudge, it is further expressely set downe and ordayned by the Constitutions of the Empire, and by the fundamentall Lawe of the Goulden Bull, that

that in such like cases, that is, when eyther the Roman Emperour shall sue in Law any Estate of the Empire, or be sued in Law by any Estate of the Empire, the whole matter of Controuersie ought to be pleaded, and tried, and iudged onely and alone before and by the Count Palatine of the Rhyne, Elector, as ordinarie Iudge lawfully thereunto authorized by and in stead of the whole Roman Empire.

And although it cannot be denyed, but that, (for to giue some colourable shew to the abuse of the Imperiall Soueraigntie and authoritie.) it is furthermore and againe alledged & cast abroad, because this Controuersie and Action concernes an whole Electorate of the holy Empire, that therefore all Electors together haue power granted vnto them, for to giue their iudgement, and to interpose themselues in it: and that likewise not long since, with one consent, it hath beene agreed vpon by the Electors to this end assembled at Milheusen, that namely his Imperiall Maiestie might lawfully, and by vertue of right and iustice, make vse and put in vre his Imperiall authoritie and power in this his Austriacall priuate pretence against the Count Palatine Elector, now King of Bohemia: yet is the same the verie fulnesse and height of all absurdities and vnrighteousnesses which euer were heard of vnder the cope of Heauen. For if the three spirituall Electors be of opinion that the Electorall Colledge hath power by reason of the Electorate of Bohemia,

mia, to take the cause in hand, and to iudge in
and of the same, then had it beene their part and
office at the last past Election-day at Frankford,
when the whole Electorall Colledge was most
earnestly required, as well by the States of Bo-
hemia's Ambassadors, as also thereunto instant-
ly admonished, by the Deputies of the three
Temporall Electors themselves, before all other
things, to employ all their labour and paine for
to appease and take vp the matter, especially *cum*
Res adhuc esset integra. But whilst at that time
they would take no notice at all of it, whilst also
the Elector of Mogunce would not so much as
once propose vnto the Electorall Councell-
Table, the Letters of Intervention deliuered vn-
to him by the Ambassadors of Bohemia, (not-
withstanding his Electorall Grace should haue
done and performed the same *ratione officij*, as
being Arch-Chancellor to the Empire :) whilst
also the three Spiritual Lords-Electors, together
at that time would not permit the aforesaid Bo-
hemian Ambassadors to come to that by them
required audience, notwithstanding it did con-
cerne the Electorate of Bohemia, and was due
vnto them by the verie Law Nationall; We can-
not but greatly maruell, that now they shew
themselves to be possessed as it were with an e-
uill before-hand priuily preiudicative conceyued
iudgement; in that now, they of, & among them-
selves, and without priuity of the whole electoral
Colledge, much lesse of any other of the Princes
and

and Estates of the Empire, ouer-shoote themselves so farre, that, contrarie vnto all Lawes both diuine and humane, they forget not to condemn one partie vnheard, and to absolve the other.

Out of this manifest behauiour of theirs then, it will be hard to find out, or see any way, whereby they may or can be able to free themselves from partialitie, much lesse to shew or make, or obtrude themselves Iudges vnpartiall; forasmuch as it cannot be denyed but that the Crowne and Electorate of Bohemia, hath his owne proper and vndoubted fundamentall Laws and priuiledges, according vnto the Tenour whereof, the King together with the Estates of Bohemia, ought to be conuented in cases of the like nature, and alloweth no iurisdiction at all to the holy Empire, saue onely (as it was said before) in that which is due vnto the Empire, as from a Fee thereon depending.

And whereas the fault which was publicquely committed at Frankford, striveth priuily and without all power to excuse or shrub it selfe by and vnder the name of Imperiall authoritie; it is such a thing which hereby must be remitted to the Iudgement and Tribunall of God, the most iust Iudge.

But the things now spoken, are by no meanes to be thus vnderstood, as if the King of Bohemia, Count Palatine, and Elector, would not submit himselfe, nor vndergoe any other lawfull iudgement,

ment, forasmuch as he hath still and of his owne accord offered himselfe thereunto, if so be the same might be done and had in due and conuenient places, by vnpartiall and thereunto qualified persons; but not before some few Estates of the Empire, arrogating vnto themselues apart, and *de facto ius iudicandi*: Nor by his Imperiall Maiesties priuate Councel-Table, and obtrudent passionate Seruants.

Neither is the question which party hath the Law on his side, But whether his Imperiall Maiestie, or his Priuie Counsellors, may or can be Judges, or no? For, as concerning the meane and principall cause in and of it selfe, we referre the gentle Reader to the Deduction published not long since by the Estates of Bohemia, in the which there is containd at large, first a demonstration, how and in what manner they haue obtayned the right of their free Election, how and in what manner they haue continued the same without any interruption, till the time of his imperiall Maiestie: Secondly, a fundamentall confutation of the Austriacal pretenciōs & grounds: Thirdly, a deductiō of those most vrgent & pregnant Motiues, by the which (assisted by their ancient and well deduced right, and free Election) they were lawfully moued to reiect the Imperiall Maiestie that now is, and to take in hand a new election: concerning which points they are ready to giue reason, and answer in due place, and before competent Iudges; and to produce further
proofe

prooffe for to shew that their most gracious King and Lord that now is, is most vnkindly dealt withall, in that he is said to haue pulled the Crowne of Bohemia from the head of his Imperiall Maiestie, whereas his royall Maieitie obtayned the same most lawfully by ordinarie and vnamim free election, the same Crowne beeing then altogether vacant. But wee deeme it needelesse to dwell any longer vpon this, especially discouering as it were by the way, another grosse absurditie worthie to be taken away.

For many there are found among these which entertaine an erroneous opinion of the lawfulnessse of the pretended clayme of inheritance of the House of Austria, and which say, That although in the Golden Bull there be expressely reserued vnto the Estates of Bohemia the right of free election, whereas in other temporall Electorates and masculine Fees of the Empire, there is set down & confirmed a speciall order concerning the hereditarie succession in the same, of the eldest Sonnes and other neere kinsmen by the fathers side: that neuerthelesse the same is to bee restrayned to the Family of *Charles* the Fourth, and so to the House of Austria onely, forasmuch as it is not to be presumed that *Charles* the Emperour, and they then assembled Electors, Princes, and Estates of the Empire, would haue thus easily, and that directly giuen the Electoral office annexed to the Crowne of Bohemia, to the free election of the Estates of Bohemia, and so attri-

• buted the same to an vncertaine Family.

But this imaginarie obiection hath as little ground and strength, as may be found in this which would perswade vs that the free Election of the three Cathedrall Chapters, of Mogunce, Colen, and Triers, of their Archbishops and Electors of the Empire, is not graunted vnto them simply, but is restrained to some certaine Houses and Families: Whereas much the more it is to be presumed, that, because and whilst, according to the Go den Bul, the other three temporal Electorates and Fees masculine, cannot hereditarily descend vpon the daughters, but vnto the sonnes onely, and to the neereſt kinsmen of the fathers ſide; ſo in like manner the Eſtates of Bohemia, after the Crowne of Bohemia hath bin made an Electorate, ſhould elect no woman to be their Queene, and ſo an Electrize of the Empire; as alſo the aforeſaid three Spirituall Chapters uſe not to chuſe women to bee their Archbishops, and Electors of the Empire.

And ſurely it is a thing very new, nay heretofore neuer heard of in the holy Empire, that men ſhould ſo much haue endeouored to appropriate the Electorate of Bohemia, as well to women as to men, and that by a fayned and neuer as yet proued right of Inheritance; yea, that the claime of Inheritance, pretended by his Imperiall Maieſtie, will needes and principally bee deduced from a Woman, to wit, from *Anna*, wife to *Ferdinand* the firſt, Emperour. Forasmuch, as long
as

as the Electorall Colledge hath beene, neuer woman wore the Electorall office.

And it would be a thing vnaccustomed and strange, if a woman should be either receiued or intruded into the Electorall Colledge, considering that a woman is not onely vncapable thereof by reason of the qualitie of that Sexe, as being vnable to accomplish the warlike seruice due of such Fee of the Empire to the Empire; but also that it would be resembling more a Stage-play, then be conuenient to the grauitie of an Electorall Colledge, if a woman at the election of a Roman Emperour, should sit in the midst of the spirituall and temporall Electors, should moreover ride together with & amongst them, should performe the Electorall office, should beare the Electorall sword.

Whereupon then now, and to conclude, it is left to the wise consideration of the whole impartiall World, but especially of the most illustrious Electors, Princes, and Estates of the Empire, to iudge, whether it would be iust and lawfull, and not rather contrarie and repugnant to God, and to the libertie of the Electors, Princes, & Estates, if it should fall out that his Imperiall Maiestie should, as well in this present case, as in other of the like nature, (where nothing at all is attempted nor medled against & with the holy Empire, nor any orderly and lawfull cognition had) defend and maintaine his priuate pretence and interest (the which by armes he hath defended ere
C 3 and

and before he attayned to the Empire) by way of obtayned Imperial authoritie, and that against so chiefe an Elector of the Empire; should in *causa propria* presse forward with Imperial power, should raise dangerous warre, not onely in Bohemia, the pretence whereof is controuerted, but in the verie middest of the holy Empire, and that by Spanish seruants, euill affecting the German Nation; should be both partie and Iudge, should as elected Roman Emperour adiudge to himselfe such pretended Austriacall right, should condemne the contrarie part and that vnheard, should put forth and execute the threatned proceffe of proscription, and that vnder the name of Imperiall Soueraigntie: but for priuate commoditie, should by such extreames expose to vttermost danger of totall ruine (which God forbid) the whole Roman Empire our natieue Countrey, and that all contrarie vnto that by corporall oath ratified Imperiall Capitulation.

Thus now (curteous Reader) hast thou here a short Answer to the proposed Question; Consider the same well, and desire God to assist the right.
Farewell.

An

An Extract taken out of the Acte
made at the Dyet at Wormes, in the
yeare 1548: Concerning the King-
dome of Bohemia.

THe Royall Maiestie of Bohemia, hath be-
times and before this beene put in minde
by his ordayned Councell of the Diuifi-
on, how that the King of Bohemia hath beene
found in the last Contribution-Roll at Wormes,
and that therefore the intent of the generall As-
semble of the Diuision, is, to put his Royall Ma-
iestie (as beeing King of Bohemia and Elector)
likewise into the new Rolle, and to assigne him
his portion of Contribution, for those Landes
which his Maiestie holdeth from the Empire, as
King of Bohemia, so as the said Councell hath
done already in the reformed Contribution-
Rolle.

But because this their motion and intent hath
beene altogether strange to his Royall Maiestie,
by reason that his Maiestie heretofore neuer
heard nor knew any thing of it; his Royall Maie-
stie hath deferred the matter (for want of suffici-
ent present instruction) vntill his happy returne
into the Crowne of Bohemia, where, after most
diligent search and enquirie made, he could find
out or know nothing else, but that the Estates of
the Crowne of Bohemia, knew of no contributi-

on to the Empire; and say plainly, that neyther the alledged Rolles of Wormes, nor the ancient, hath beene made with will and consent of his Royall Maiesties renowned Predecessours, Kings of Bohemia; and that they were neuer liable to any ayde, nor neuer gaue ayde; and, in a word, that they owe none.

Neyther can his Royall Maiestie call to mind, that euer he was burthened with any Contribution, or demanded any ayde; much lesse payde or performed any, notwithstanding not a few Contributions and aydes to and for the Empire, haue beene made and agreed vpon by the Empire; Whereas, moreouer, the King of Bohemia is neuer summoned to appeare or to be present at the generall Dyet of the Empire, and hath neyther place nor voyce in the Councell of the Empire.

Besides this, whilest the Contributions to the Empire haue hitherto beene layd onely and alone vpon those Estates which are contained and particularly set downe in the tenne Diuisions. But the Crowne of Bohemia being found in no Diuision at all, the generall Estates of the Empire may easily perceiue and know that that Crowne hath heretofore neuer contributed with the Empire, and can therefore not be but wrongfully put into the Rolle of Contribution.

Neyther doe the Contributions of the Empire concerne but onely the Estates of the Empire of the Germaine Nation, which rest vnder the

the defence and protection of the holy Empire,
and vse the peace and Lawes of it.

And though his Royall Maiestie, as King of Bohemia, holdeth of the holy Empire certayne Countries and Dominions that vse the German Language, yet haue the said Countries and Dominions, from the Romane Empire, neyther defence nor protection, nor peace nor Law, but are from ancient times seuered from the Empire of the Germane Nation, into a particular Realme and Nation, and are not incorporate to it, and therefore not subiect vnto the burthens, aydes, and Contributions of the Empire of the German Nation.

And though many Strangers, and outlandish Potentates, hold of the Imperiall Maiestie and the holy Empire, many renowned Countries and Dominions, yet are they neuer burthened, or subiect, with or to any Contributions and Aydes to the Empire of the German Nation.

Whilest then, now out of this it appeareth, that the King of Bohemia is not bound to the Contributions of the Empire, but wrongfully and by meere error, put into the Contribution-Rolle of Wormes, or perhaps into others more ancient, as his Royall Maiestie, as King of Bohemia, doth assure himselfe confidently, and hopes that the generall Estates of the Empire will desist from their intent and demaund, and burthen his Maiestie no more, then were his

Predecessors, Kings of Bohemia. And if his royall Maiestie, as King of Bohemia, and Elector, can doe or shew any assistance to the holy Empire, or else to the Estates of the German Nation, as well in generall as in particular, for the profit and common welfare, whether it be out of duty, or out of good will or friendship, his Royall Maiestie offereth himselfe hereby most willingly and friendly thereto: giuing likewise hereby notice vnto the generall Estates, That as hitherto the Estates of his Royall Crowne of Bohemia, haue shewed themselues most obedient, readie, and forward in all occasions of any necessities against the Infidels, so now and hereafter they will not want to performe the same at the utmost of their power.

FINIS.



SACRATIS-
SIMÆ CÆSA-
RÆ, AC GERMA-
NIÆ, HVNGARIÆ, BOHEMIÆ
&c Regiæ Majestatis, Edictalis Cassatio, Iniquæ,
Prætenſæ, & ipſo jure nullæ Electionis GA-
BRIELIS BETLEN, in Regno
Hungariæ.

NEC NON
ACTORUM OM-
NIVM, TRACTATORVM, ET
CONCLVSORVM IN CONVENTV PO-
SONIENSI ET NOVIZOLI-
enſi Annullatio.



AUGUSTÆ VINDEL:
Recuſa per Andream Apergerum.
ANNO M. DC. XXI.